



MARVEL

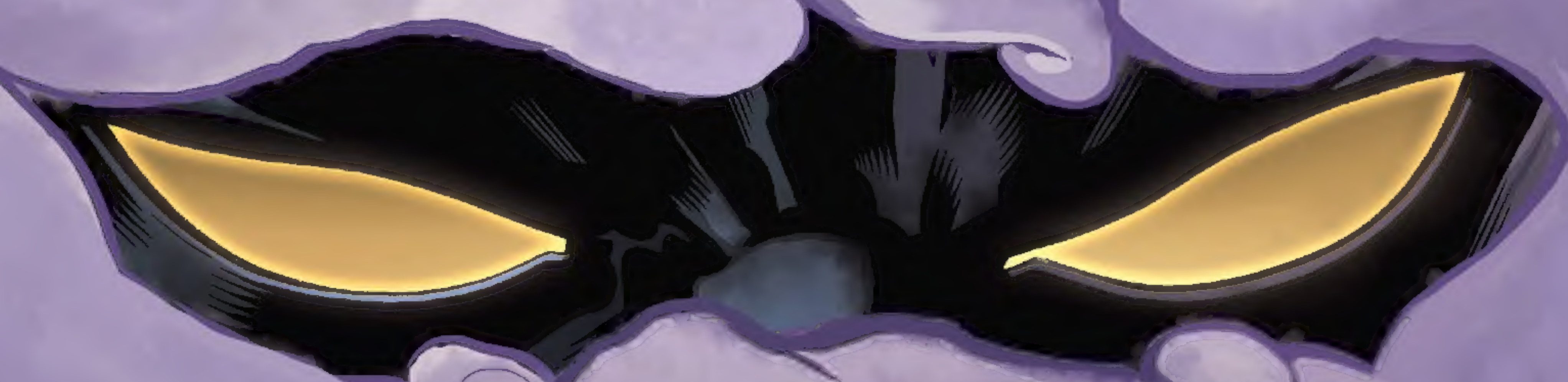
CLAREMONT
NAUCK
ROSENBERG

008

PREVIOUSLY IN...

NIGHTCRAWLER

RECENTLY RETURNING FROM THE AFTERLIFE, NIGHTCRAWLER HAS BEEN SEARCHING FOR HIS PLACE IN A WORLD FAR DIFFERENT FROM THE ONE HE LEFT BEHIND. COPING WITH THE RECENT DEATH OF HIS FRIEND, WOLVERINE, NIGHTCRAWLER MUST DO SO WITHOUT THE GUIDANCE OF ONE OF HIS CLOSEST CONFIDANTS. AND WITH THE RECENT ACTIONS OF THE CRIMSON PIRATES PUTTING THE LIVES OF HIS STUDENTS AT RISK, NIGHTCRAWLER WILL HAVE TO FIND HIS FOOTING QUICKLY, OR RISK LOSING EVEN MORE.



CHRIS CLAREMONT
WRITER

TODD NAUCK
ARTIST

RACHELLE ROSENBERG
COLOR ARTIST

TRAVIS LANHAM
LETTERER

**TODD NAUCK AND
RACHELLE ROSENBERG**
COVER ARTIST

XANDER JAROWEY
ASSISTANT EDITOR

DANIEL KETCHUM
EDITOR

MIKE MARTS
X-MEN GROUP EDITOR

AXEL ALONSO
EDITOR IN CHIEF

JOE QUESADA
CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER

DAN BUCKLEY
PUBLISHER

ALAN FINE
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

THE JEAN GREY SCHOOL.

IT'S STRANGE,
EVEN AFTER
THE DEATH OF A
DEAR FRIEND...

...HOW QUICKLY
THINGS GET BACK
TO NORMAL.

DEATH IS BUT A
MOMENT IN THE
GREAT SCHEME OF
THINGS. REGARDLESS
OF THE LOSS...

...OF HOW
DEEPLY WE MAY
FEEL HURT...

...LIFE
GOES ON.



WE ARE
TEACHERS.



WE HAVE
RESPONSIBILITIES
TO OUR STUDENTS.

LOOK
AT HIM
GO.

I'VE NEVER SEEN
NIGHTCRAWLER
MOVE SO FAST.

COLOSSUS
IS REALLY TRYING
TO NAIL HIM!



CLOSE, MEIN
FREUND...

...BUT NO
CIGAR.



NO FAIR
TELEPORTING!



YOU KNOW THE
RULES, **PIOTR
NICHOLIAVITCH**.
IN THE
**DANGER
ROOM ...**



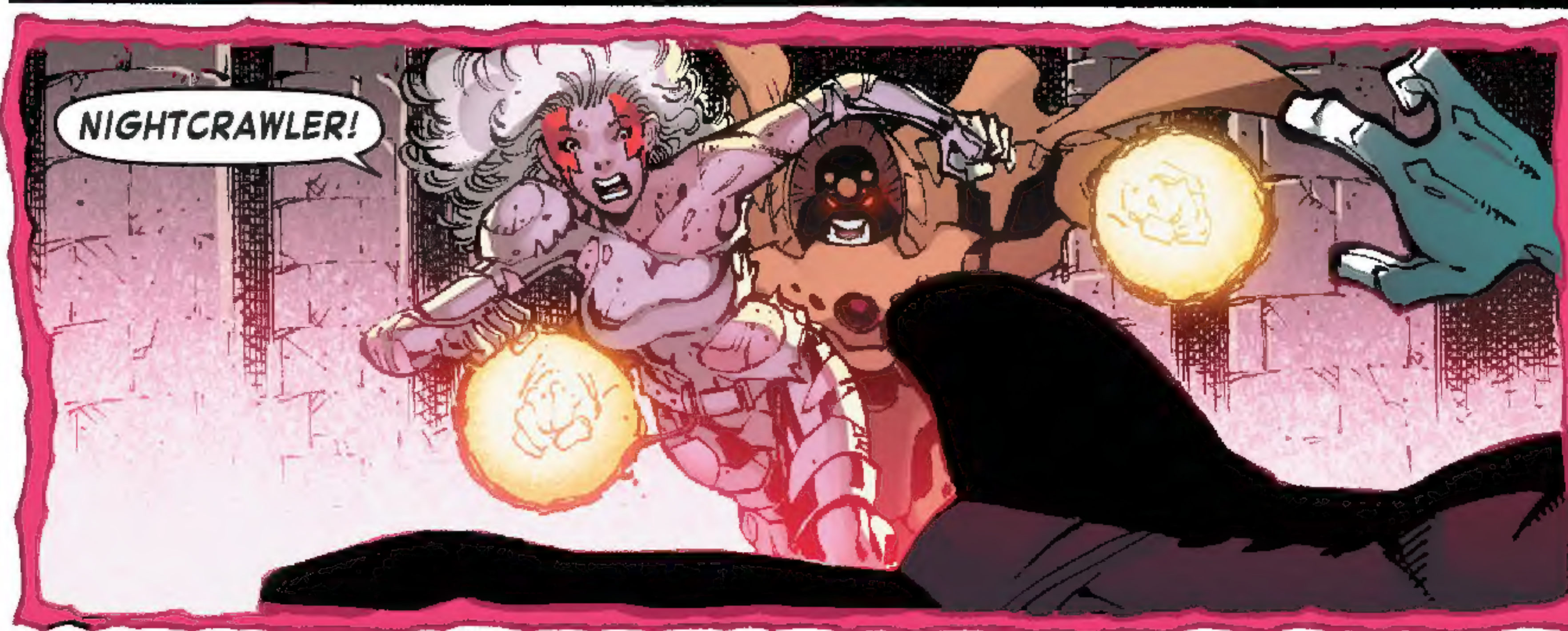
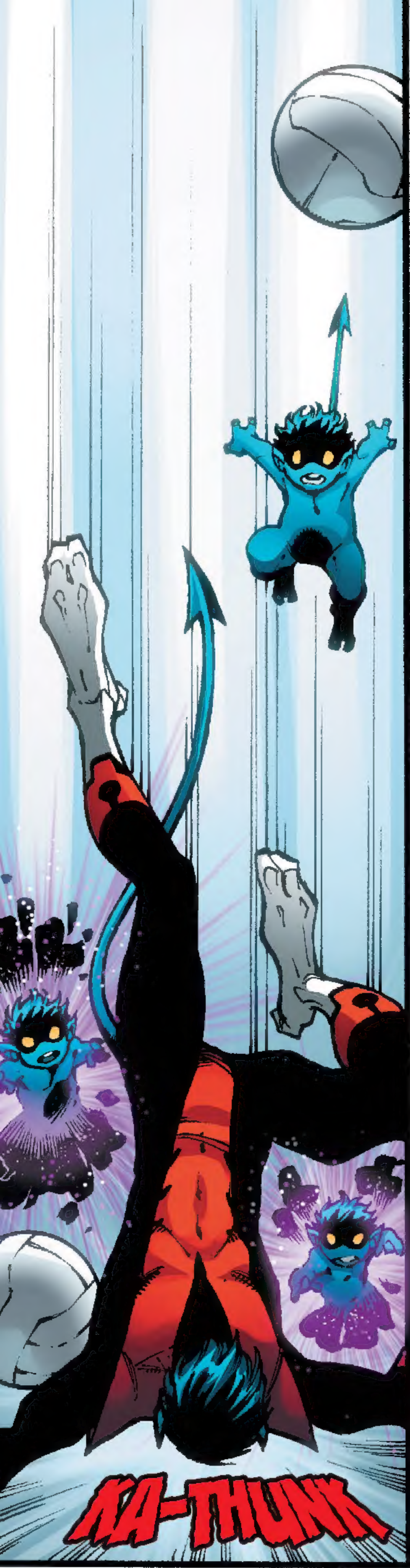
...X-MEN
USE ALL THEIR
ASSETS.

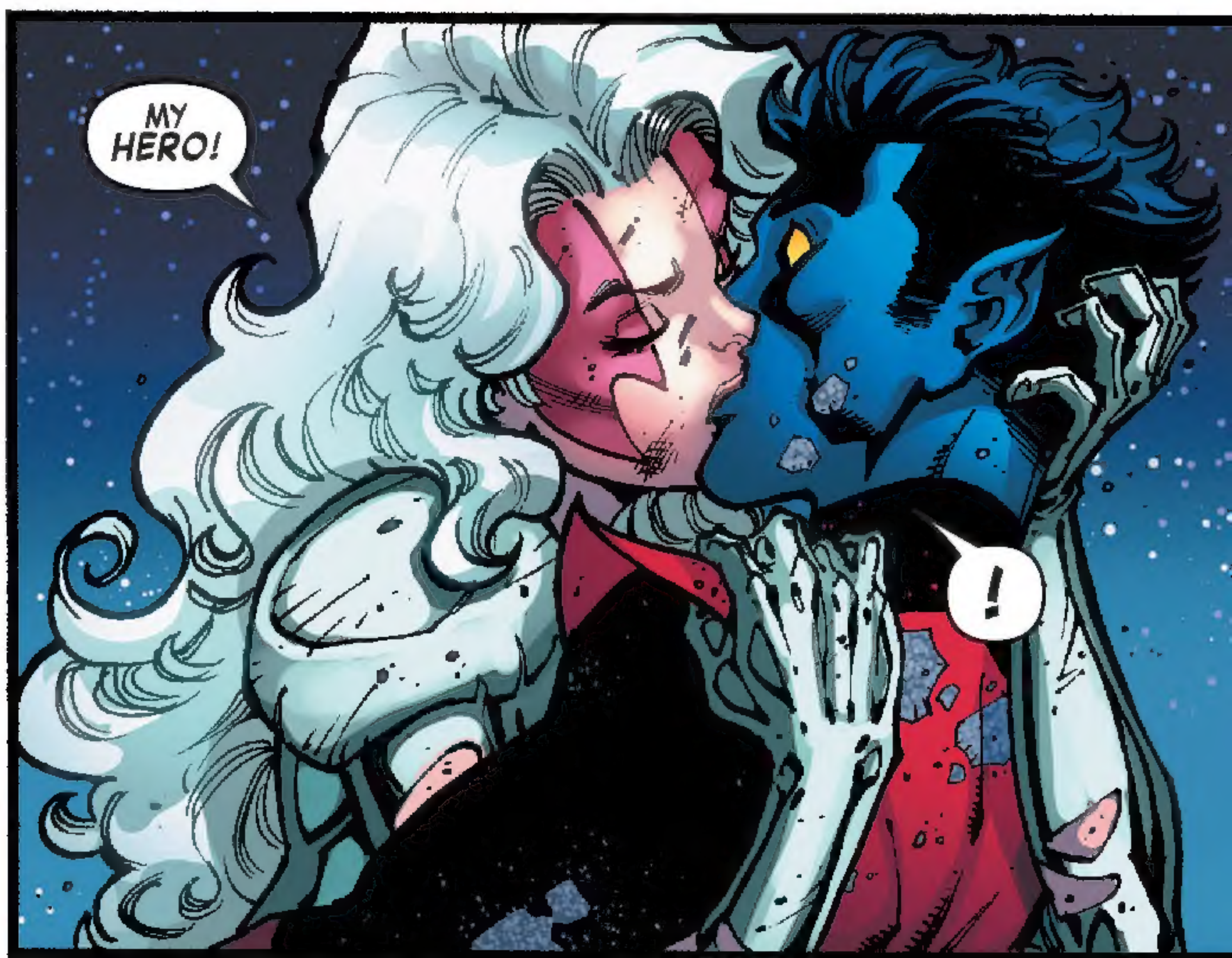


IF YOU
INSIST--!



POW!<





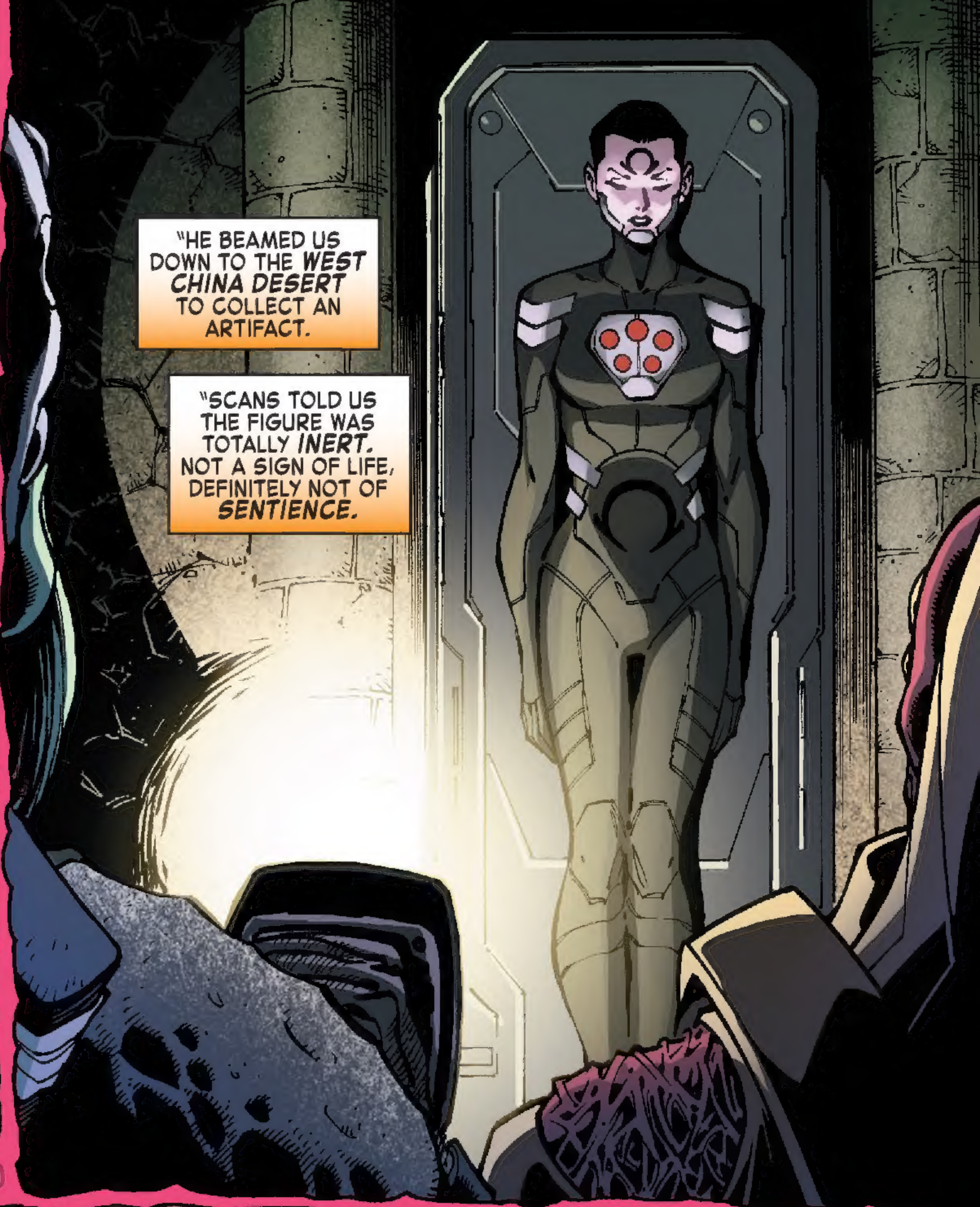
"ALWAYS THE MAN
OF BUSINESS.

"YOU AND I,
WE'RE GONNA
HAVETA WORK
ON THAT.

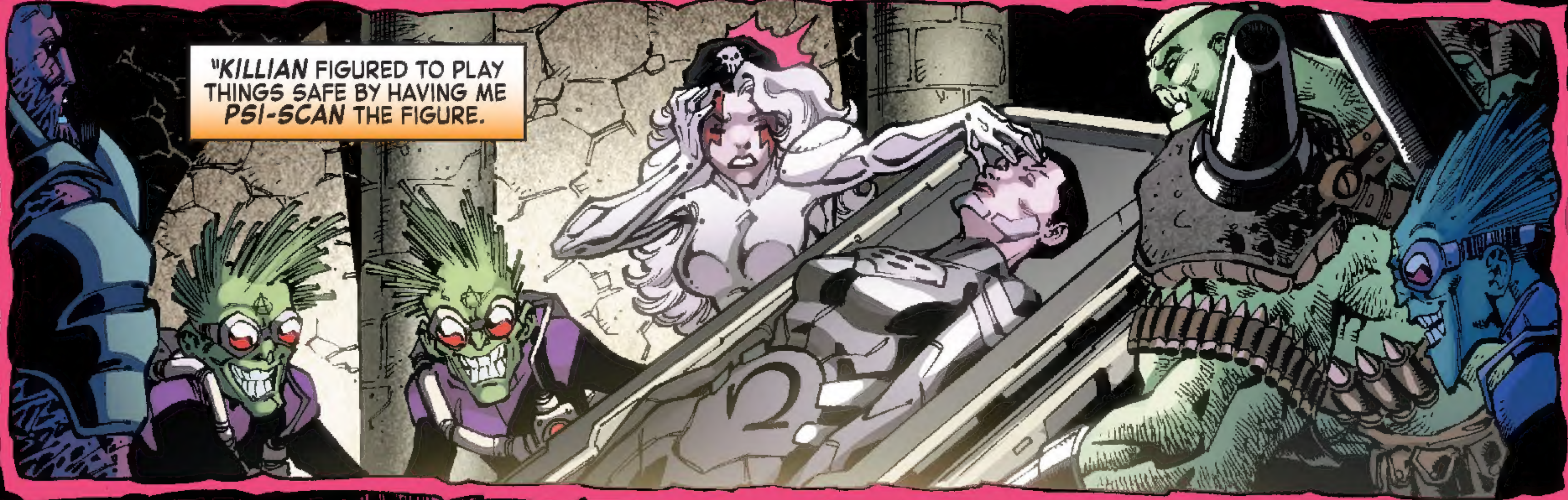
"SIMPLY PUT, THE
CRIMSON PIRATES WERE
ON A CAPER FOR OUR BOSS,
TULLAMORE VOGE.

"HE BEAMED US
DOWN TO THE **WEST
CHINA DESERT**
TO COLLECT AN
ARTIFACT.

"SCANS TOLD US
THE FIGURE WAS
TOTALLY **INERT**.
NOT A SIGN OF LIFE,
DEFINITELY NOT OF
SENTIENCE.



"KILLIAN FIGURED TO PLAY
THINGS SAFE BY HAVING ME
PSI-SCAN THE FIGURE.



"**BIG
MISTAKE.**



"NEXT I KNEW,
I WAS FIGHTING
FOR MY LIFE.

"THE *HOSTILE* WANTED TO POSSESS
ME, TOO, BUT IT COULDN'T GRAB A
FIRM HOLD OF ME. MY NATURAL PSYCHIC
DEFENSES WERE TOO STRONG.

"SO IT WENT
FOR THE NEXT
BEST THING: IT
TRIED TO MAKE
ME DEAD.

"I TAUGHT HIM THE
HARD WAY, I DON'T
DIE SO EASY.

"I RAN FOR
MY LIFE."



AND YELLED FOR
HELP TO THE ONLY
PERSON MY HEART
TOLD ME WOULD COME
WHEN I CALLED, NO
QUESTIONS
ASKED.

THAT'S
CRAZY!

YOU'RE
HERE.

JUST THE SAME
AS I'LL BE BY YOUR
SIDE WHENEVER
YOU NEED ME.

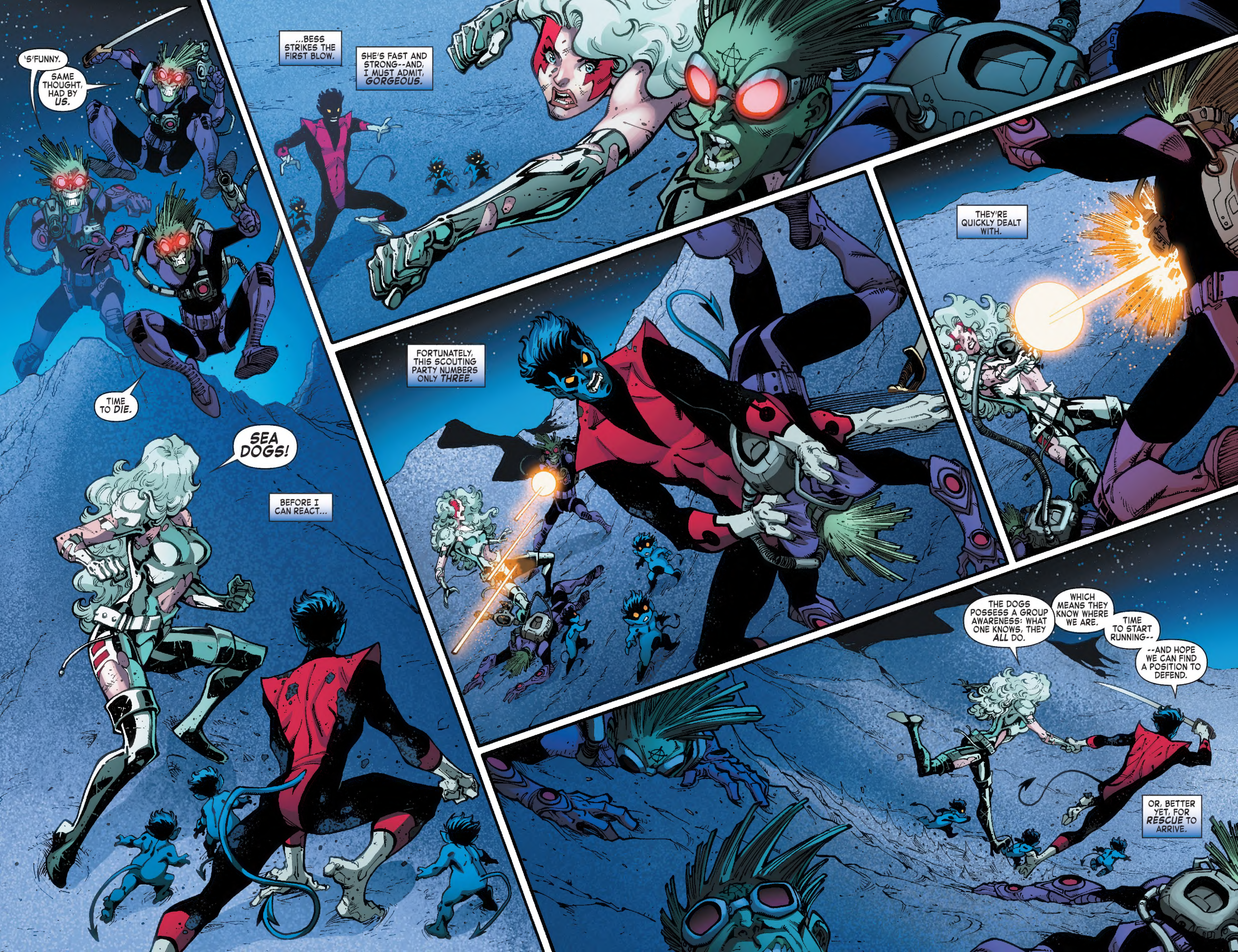
LIKE IT OR NOT,
SWEETIE--THERE'S
SOMETHING
BETWEEN US.

IF YOU
DON'T
TRUST ME,
TRUST YOUR
BAMFS.

PERHAPS
SOME OTHER
TIME, THANK
YOU.

RIGHT NOW, WE
HAVE TO DEAL WITH
YOUR MYSTERIOUS
ADVERSARY.





'S FUNNY.
SAME
THOUGHT,
HAD BY
US.

...BESS
STRIKES THE
FIRST BLOW.

SHE'S FAST AND
STRONG--AND,
I MUST ADMIT,
GORGEOUS.

TIME
TO DIE.

SEA
DOGS!

BEFORE I
CAN REACT...

FORTUNATELY,
THIS SCOUTING
PARTY NUMBERS
ONLY THREE.

THEY'RE
QUICKLY DEALT
WITH.

THE DOGS
POSSESS A GROUP
AWARENESS: WHAT
ONE KNOWS, THEY
ALL DO.

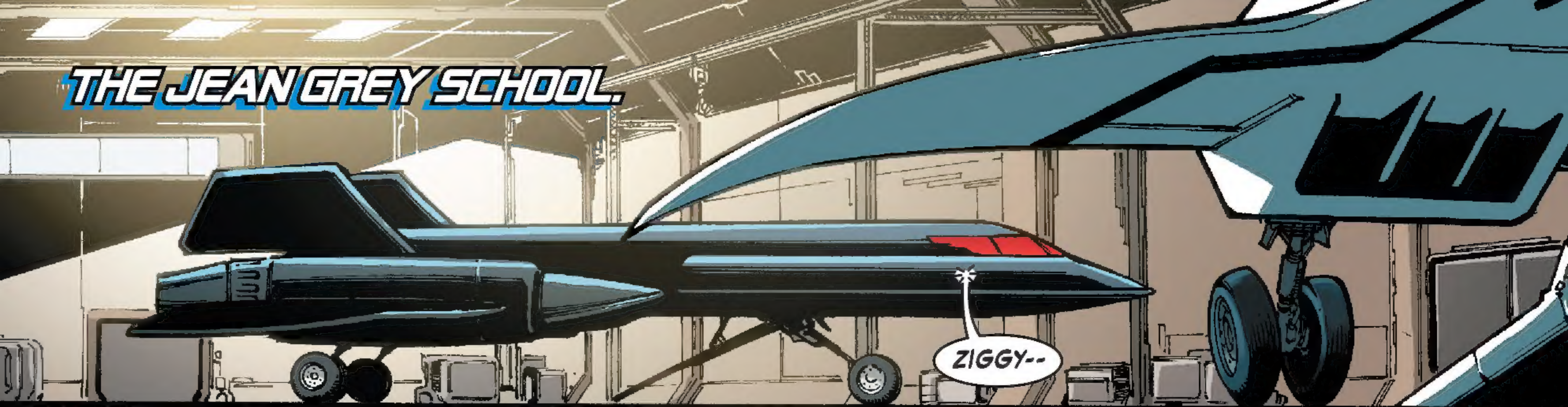
WHICH
MEANS THEY
KNOW WHERE
WE ARE.

TIME
TO START
RUNNING--

--AND HOPE
WE CAN FIND
A POSITION TO
DEFEND.

OR, BETTER
YET, FOR
RESCUE TO
ARRIVE.

THE JEAN GREY SCHOOL.



--WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

WORKING, **RICO**, CAN'T'CHA TELL?

WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HERE--

--AND YOU'RE DEFINITELY NOT SUPPOSED TO BE TAKING APART KURT'S **BLACKBIRD**!



GIMME A BREAK, MY FRIEND. SOME OF THESE SYSTEMS ARE ANCIENT!

I'M JUST MAKING THINGS WAY BETTER.

PROFESSOR WAGNER'S GONNA KILL US.



WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

SOMEBODY SOUND AN ALARM?

ARE THOSE THE X-MEN?



I HAVE A MENTAL TRACK ON KURT.

WE SEEM TO BE **PSI-LINKED**.

ANYONE CAPABLE OF PULLING HIM TO THE FAR SIDE OF THE WORLD IS NOT TO BE TAKEN LIGHTLY.

CHANCES ARE, HE NEEDS OUR HELP.

GET THE X-PLANE AIRBORNE, HANK.



THAT IS SO COOL!

DOES IT HAPPEN OFTEN?

KINDA, YAH.

THIS LOOKS **SERIOUS**, ZIGGY. WE SHOULD GET BACK UPSTAIRS.



YEAH, YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT. LEMME CLEAN UP-- **YIKES!?!**

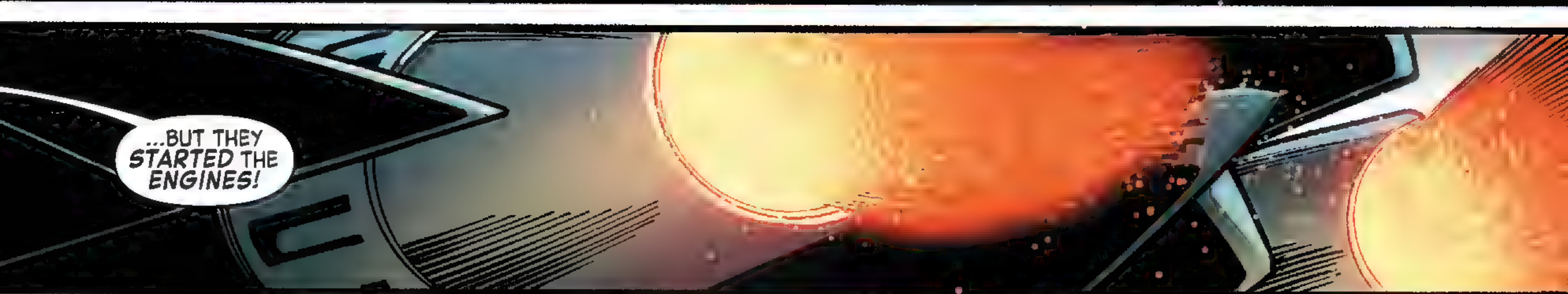
THESE ARE NIGHTCRAWLER'S LITTLE **BAMF** BUDDIES!



THOSE ARE THE FLIGHT CONTROLS.

DO THEY KNOW WHAT THEY'RE DOING?

I DUNNO...



...BUT THEY STARTED THE ENGINES!



C'MON, ZIGGY, WE GOTTA--

BAMF

WE'VE BEEN
RUNNING A
LONG TIME...

...BOTH OF US
MORE ON WILL
THAN MUSCLE.

WE'RE BEYOND
EXHAUSTION--
YET WE REFUSE
TO QUIT.

YOU HAVE
A GOOD GRIP,
WAGNER.

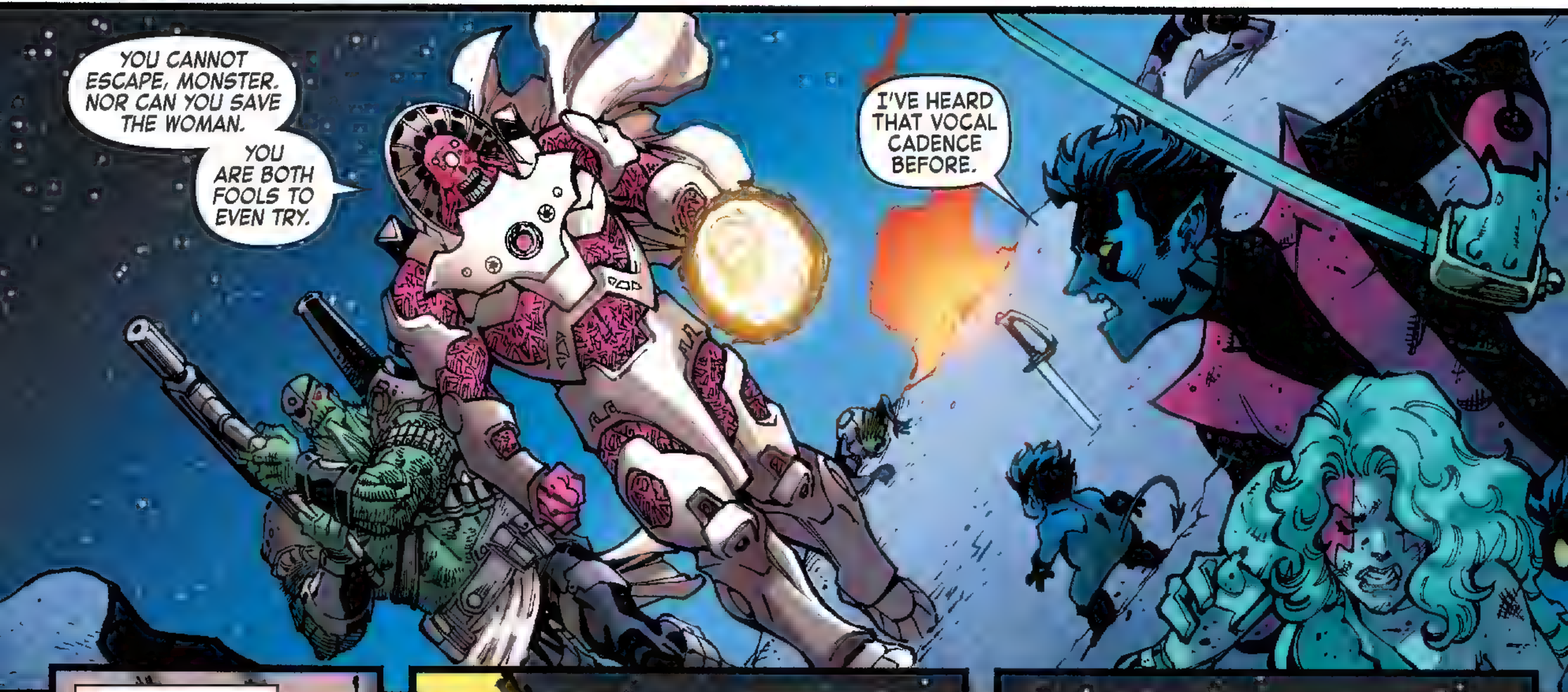
AS DO
YOU, BESS.

TAKES A
PIRATE TO KNOW
A PIRATE.

STOP
TALKING
LIKE THAT,
WOMAN.



AND
THIS TIME,
THEY'RE NOT
ALONE.



YOU CANNOT
ESCAPE, MONSTER.
NOR CAN YOU SAVE
THE WOMAN.

YOU
ARE BOTH
FOOLS TO
EVEN TRY.

I'VE HEARD
THAT VOCAL
CADENCE
BEFORE.

AND SEEN THAT
SMILE AS WELL.

KILLIAN IS POSSESSED
BY SOMEONE I
KNOW--BUT WHO?

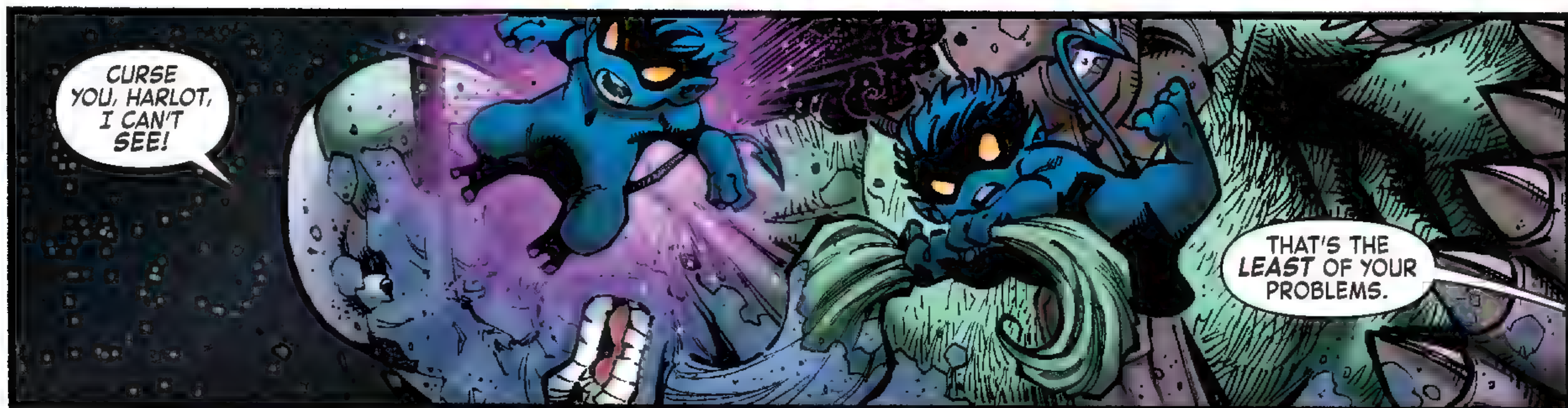
YOU MAY
BE IMMUNE TO
MY INFLUENCE,
BESS...

...BUT THAT
PROBLEM IS
EASILY DEALT
WITH.

HIS ARMOR
PROTECTS
KILLIAN'S BODY
AGAINST MY
SWORDS.

BUT
NOT HIS
HEAD!

KRAK



GOOD AS WE ARE, HARD AS WE FIGHT, OUR ADVERSARIES KEEP ON COMING.

THE CREATURE POSSESSING THEM SIMPLY WON'T LET THEM FALL.

THAT RUTHLESSNESS IS YET ANOTHER CLUE.

BUT IF I'M RIGHT ABOUT WHO HE IS...

...THEN WE'RE IN REAL TROUBLE.

SORRY, ELF. BULLETS WON'T SHOOT THROUGH THEIR ARMOR. I'M NOT EVEN SLOWING 'EM DOWN.

AND I'M RUNNING LOW ON AMMO!

THEN WE'LL HAVE TO PULL BACK--BESS, BEHIND YOU!

I'VE TAKEN YOUR MEASURE, PSI-WITCH--

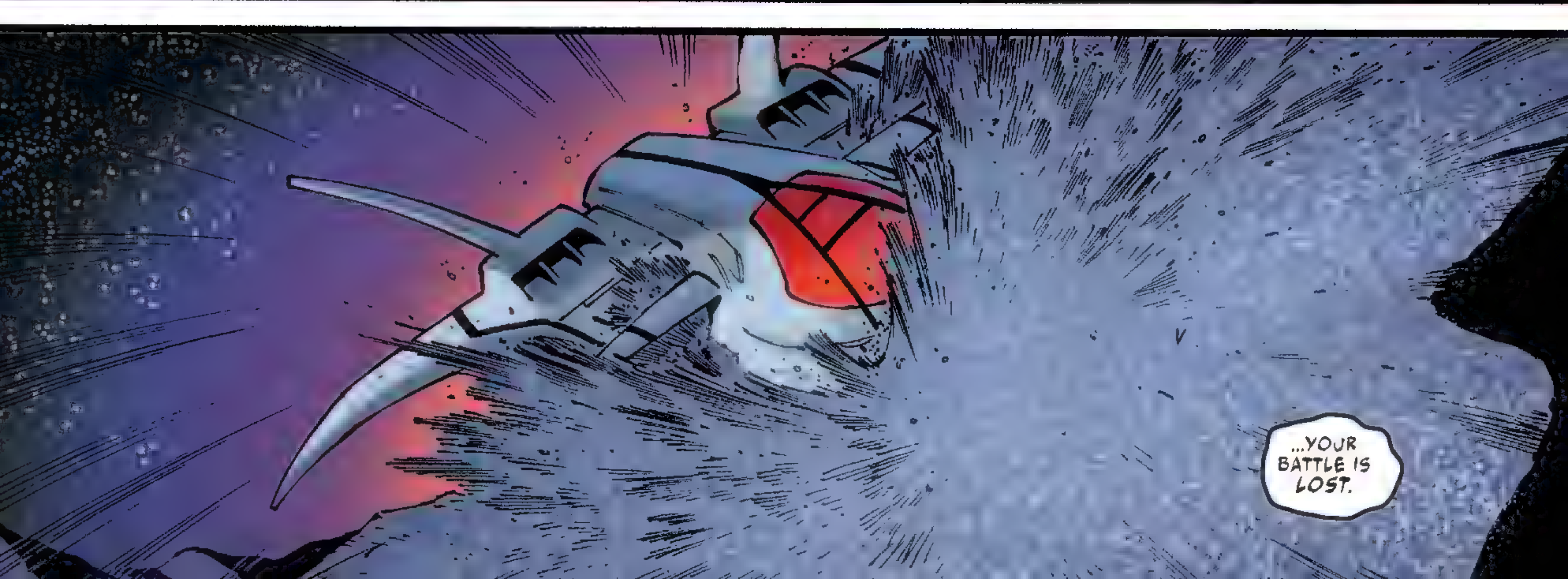
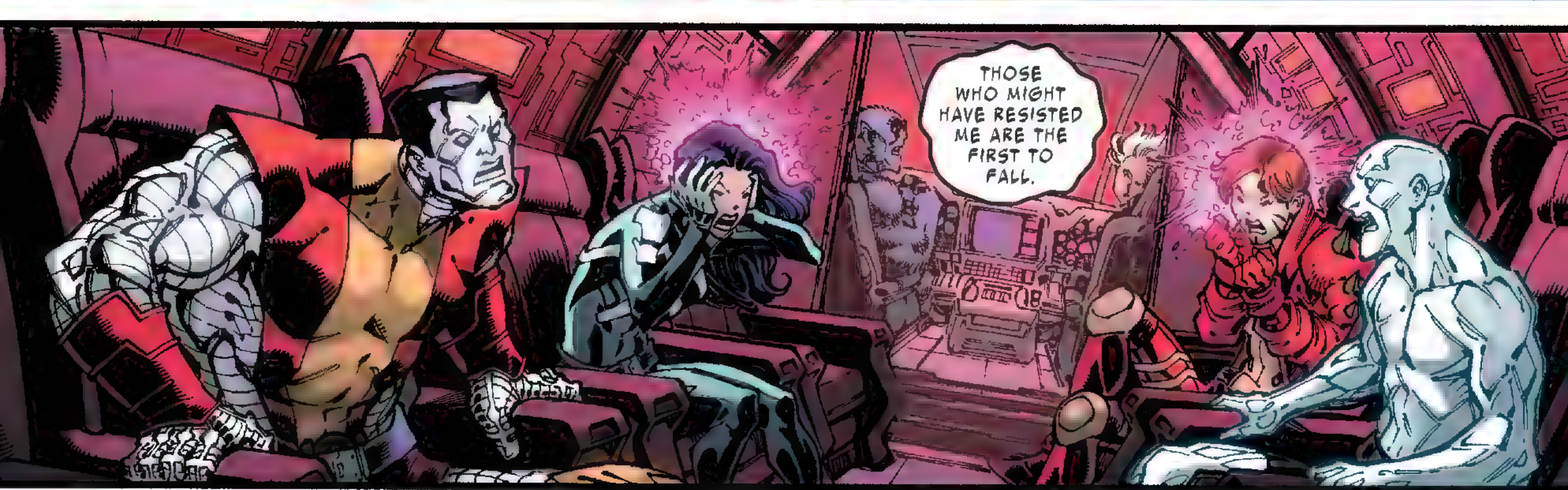
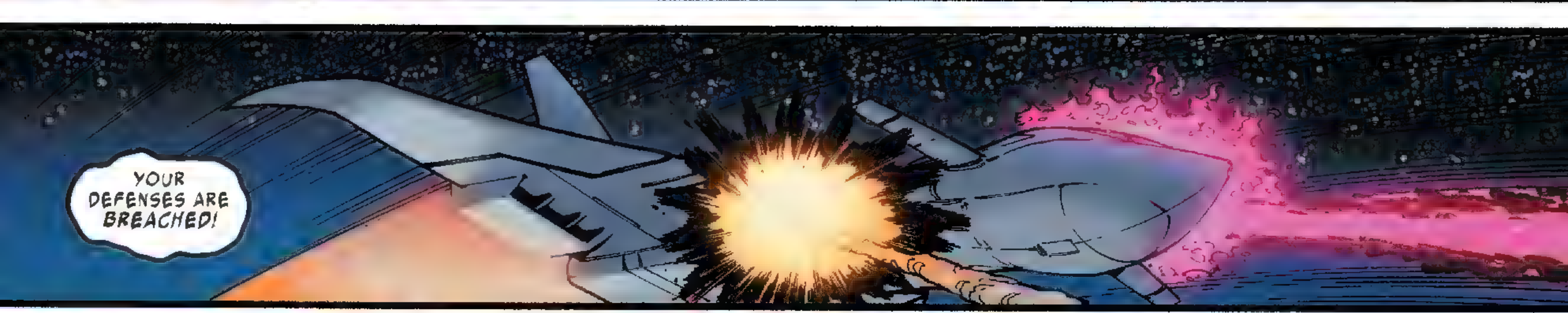
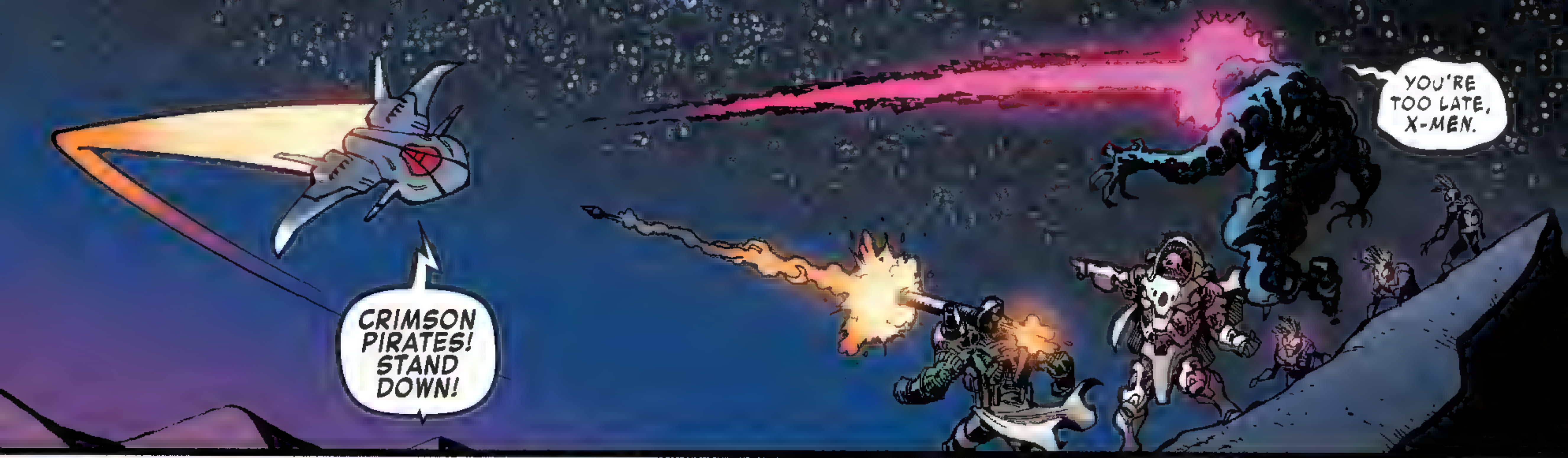
AAAAHHHH--!

BESS!

--AND I HAVE FOUND YOU WANTING!

NO!

I WILL NOT SEE ANOTHER FRIEND DIE!





SAVING
ME'S GETTING
TO BE A
HABIT.

MORE LIKE
A DANGEROUS
PLEASURE.

YOU'VE
TAKEN SOME
HARD HITS.

I'LL
RECOVER,
SWEETIE.

WE NEED
TO GET YOU TO
SAFETY--MEIN
GOTT!



WILL YOU
LOOK AT THAT.
ILLUMINATED BY
THE SUNRISE.

THE
CHINESE BUILT
A CITY IN WHAT
MUST HAVE BEEN
AN OASIS.

IT LOOKS
BRAND-NEW--AND
ALSO PRETTY MUCH
DESERTED.



AT THE VERY LEAST,
THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF
PLACES TO HIDE.

STAY
SAFE, LEAVE
THE REST
TO ME.



THAT WAS
NICE.

IT WAS
AN IMPULSE.

I LIKE
IT.

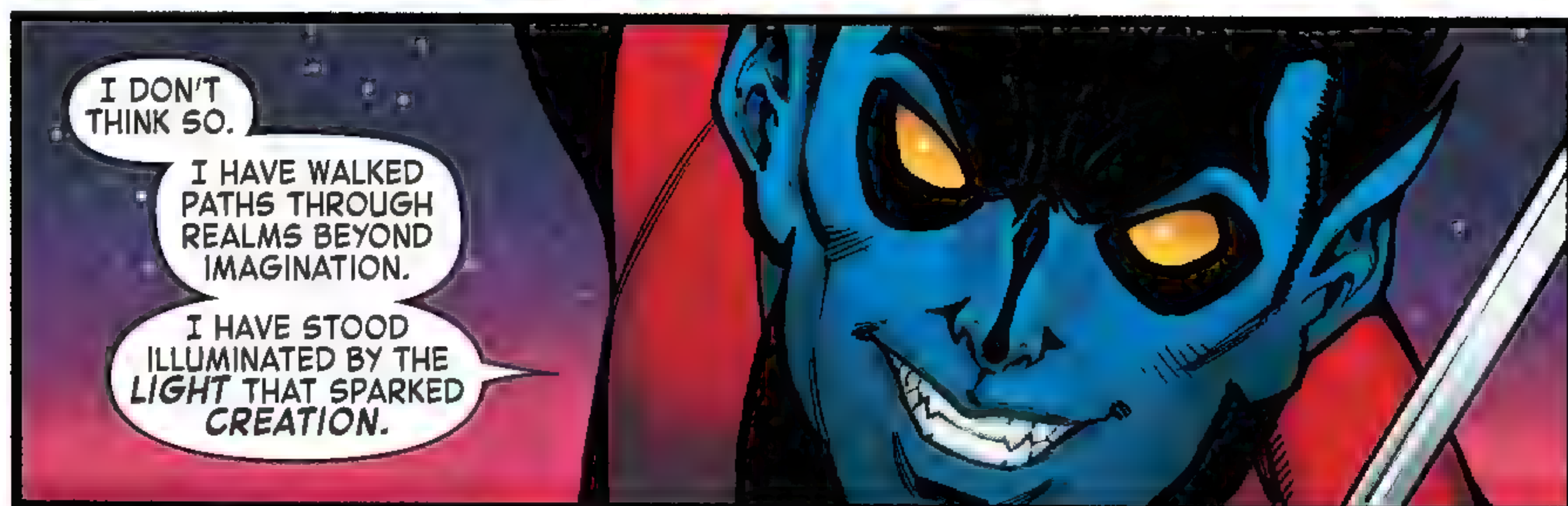
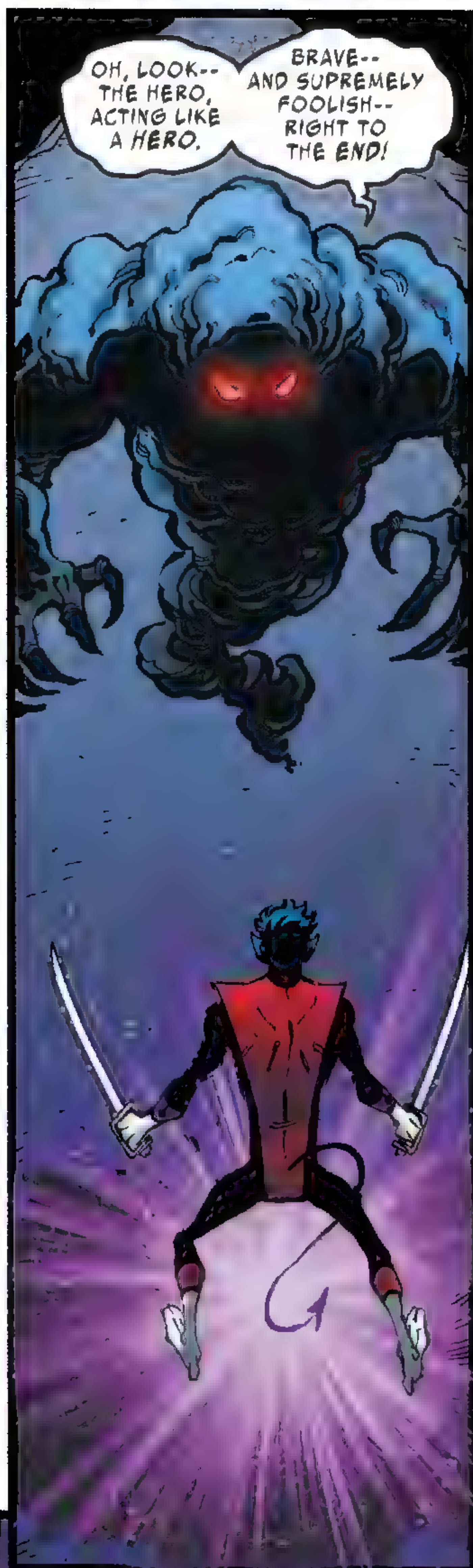
I--LIKE
YOU.

DIDN'T
SEE THAT
COMING.



YOU
AND ME
BOTH.

LET'S
HOPE WE'RE
BOTH AROUND
TO SEE WHAT
HAPPENS
NEXT.





DEAR LORD, IF I AM TRULY HERE FOR A PURPOSE, LET ME BE TRUE TO MY FAITH--

--AND THE TRUST YOU PLACE IN ME.



SUCH SWEET WORDS. D'YOU THINK THEY MATTER?

D'YOU THINK THEY'LL SAVE YOU?

I HAVE BEEN TWISTING THE SOULS OF YOUR KIND SINCE BEFORE THE DAWN OF HISTORY.

THERE ARE NONE I COULD NOT EVENTUALLY CORRUPT--



--AND DESTROY.

OF ALL MY PREY, HEROES ARE THE BEST.



THEY FIGHT SO HARD.

NO-- NOT YOU!

I WILL NOT LET YOU TAKE MY SOUL.

THEY FALL SO FAR.



FOOLISH STORM, I DON'T NEED YOUR SOUL.

NOT YET.

I HAVE YOUR BODY.

FOR THE MOMENT, THAT WILL SUFFICE.



TELL ME, NIGHTCRAWLER, DO YOU LIKE MY NEW TOYS?

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

SIMPLY STARTED THE PROCESS--OF REMAKING YOUR FELLOW X-MEN IN MY OWN IMAGE.

FOR NOW, THEY JUST HAVE MY SMILE.

BUT WITH EVERY OBSCENITY, EVERY CRUELTY, MY INFLUENCE WILL SPREAD, UNTIL, IN A SURPRISINGLY SHORT TIME...

...YOUR DEAR FRIENDS, YOUR PRECIOUS "HEROES" WILL BE JUST LIKE ME!

THEIR FIRST STEP ON THE PATH TO THAT DAMNATION...

...WILL BE YOUR EXECUTION!

IS THIS WHY YOU CAME TO RESCUE ME, MY FRIENDS?

IF SO, I WILL NOT LET YOU DOWN.

I WILL FIND A WAY TO DETHRONE THIS SO-CALLED "KING."

I WILL FIND A WAY TO SAVE YOU!

NEXT: NIGHTCRAWLER VS. THE X-MEN!

NEXT ISSUE



NIGHTCRAWLER #4 COVER BY TODD NAUCK AND RACHELLE ROSENBERG

© 2014 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. WWW.MARVEL.COM

X-MEN TITLES ON SALE!

- ☐ **ALL-NEW X-MEN #34**
The All-New X-Men are trapped in the Ultimate Universe. Time-displaced wasn't enough, we have to add space?
- ☐ **ALL-NEW X-FACTOR #16**
Hopefully X-Factor will be safe at Serval Headquarters...wait, is that a welcoming committee of Sentinels?!
- ☐ **AMAZING X-MEN #13**
Anole knows all too well that some don't get the option of hiding who they are. But coming to terms with it is another story.
- ☐ **CYCLOPS #7**
Scott Summers is aboard a new space pirate ship, with a cutthroat captain, and a crew of criminals...fun...but the Captain's daughter is kinda cute, right?
- ☐ **DEADPOOL #37**
Deadpool has given up violence in favor of enlightenment! How that will protect his FauX-Men friends from the real X-Men, I don't know.
- ☐ **DEADPOOL'S ART OF WAR #2**
Deadpool's war is well under way...and somehow he ended up in Loki's dungeon! Fortunately, DP knows the secrets of war, right? RIGHT?!
- ☐ **DEATH OF WOLVERINE: LIFE AFTER LOGAN #1**
Logan's death hasn't been easy for those who knew him best. But what do you do when you've got a runt-sized hole in your heart?
- ☐ **DEATH OF WOLVERINE: THE LOGAN LEGACY #4 & #5**
Lady Deathstrike searches for an item once belonging to Logan. Daken may not want to take on his father's legacy, but as his son he may not have a choice.
- ☐ **DEATH OF WOLVERINE: THE WEAPON X PROGRAM #1 & #2**
The escaped subjects of the revamped Weapon X program flee increasingly deadly attempts to bring them back under control.
- ☐ **NIGHTCRAWLER #8**
Still reeling from his friend's death, Nightcrawler must cope with his pain while the shadow of an old enemy looms large.
- ☐ **MAGNETO #12**
As the Red Skull's influence permeates the world, Magneto is confronted by the best friend he thought buried...
- ☐ **STORM #5**
Storm is grieving the loss of her friend, Wolverine. But with the help of Yukio, Storm may find solace in taking care of Wolverine's unfinished business.
- ☐ **UNCANNY X-MEN #28**
We all need a father figure to kick us back in line every so often. Scott Summers killed his, unfortunately, so he's going to need a new one. Enter...MAGNETO!
- ☐ **WOLVERINE & THE X-MEN #12**
Quentin Quire returns to the Jean Grey School! But who is this mild-mannered, thoughtful young man in the white suit?
- ☐ **X-FORCE #12**
Fantomex is the best there is at everything. At least, he will be once we're all dead.
- ☐ **X-MEN #21**
What are the origins of this deep space threat? But is a larger conspiracy at work that may have its roots close to home?



EMPIRE